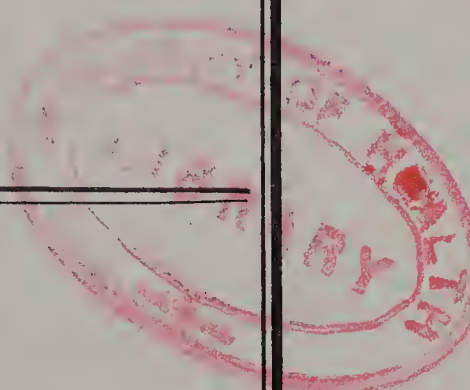
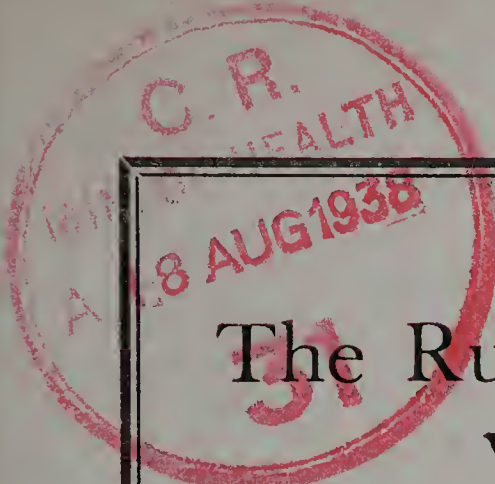


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The Rural District Council of
Wellingborough

Annual Report

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

BY

JAMES ARTHUR, M.D.

For the Year 1937

WELLINGBOROUGH :

PERKINS & Co. (WELLINGBOROUGH) LTD.

Telephone 2000

30, HIGH STREET,

WELLINGBOROUGH,

JUNE, 1938.

**To the Chairman and Councillors of the
Wellingborough Rural District Council.**

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I herewith have the honour to submit to you my Annual Report on the health of the District for the year 1937.

In accordance with the instructions of the Ministry of Health, the Report is in the nature of an Ordinary Report, and has been made more brief in the interests of economy.

I have to thank the Members of the Council and the Officials for their ready and courteous help in the work of this Department, in particular the Clerk, the Surveyor and the Sanitary Inspector.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. ARTHUR,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

STATISTICS FOR 1937.

Population (Census 1931)	...	...	...	...	12,760
Estimated Population, 1937	...	...	...	...	12,450
Birth Rate	...	...	...	...	12.3
Crude Death Rate	...	...	...	...	13.7
Adjusted Death Rate (factor 0.87)	...	...	...	...	11.9
Infantile Mortality	...	...	...	...	45.4
Maternal Mortality	...	...	...	...	Nil
Death Rate from Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	0.8
Total Live Births—					
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	147
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	7
				—	154
Total Deaths from all Causes	...	...	...	...	171
Infantile Deaths :—					
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	7
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	Nil
				—	7
Area of District in Acres (land and inland water)	...	...	...	...	33,115
Number of Inhabitated Houses (1931)	...	...	...	...	3,558
Number of Inhabitated Houses (1937) per Rate Books	...	...	...	...	3,940
Average Number of Persons per House (1931)	...	...	...	...	3.7
Rateable Value (1937)	...	...	...	...	£49,471
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	...	£189

SECTION A.—STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Population.—The estimated population of Wellingborough Rural District at mid-year 1937, was estimated at 12,450, which is thirty less than in the previous year when the figures were 12,480, and is over three hundred less than the Census of 1931 when the total was 12,760.

This decline may appear to be surprising when one considers the growth of suburbs extending from adjacent areas ; the chief factor however is the excess of deaths over births in recent years and to some extent by migration, and the need for more houses.

Number of Inhabited Houses.—According to the rate books the number of inhabited houses at the end of 1937 was 3,940, an increase of only 20 on the previous year. From these figures it would appear that the average number of persons per house in 1937 was 3.15 compared with the last Census figure of 3.7.

Rateable Value and Penny Rate.—Rather surprisingly, the rateable value for 1937 is slightly lower than in 1936—£49,471 compared with £49,495. On the other hand the sum represented by a penny rate increased from £184 to £189.

Social Conditions.—While many parishes are chiefly agricultural with a considerable portion of arable land, there are several large villages, notably Earls Barton, Irchester, Wollaston and Bozeat, which are in reality small towns, engaged in the shoe industry. This staple trade gives employment to a large section of the population. There is also an increasing amount of ironstone mining carried on.

The industries are carried out in healthy surroundings, there is no smoke nuisance and there is no evidence that any particular occupation has any injurious influence on the public health.

Extracts from Vital Statistics.

		Total	M.	F.	
Live Births	{ Legitimate	147	72	75	{ Birth Rate per 1000 of estimated population 12.3.
	{ Illegitimate	7	2	5	
Still Births	{ Legitimate	12	7	5	{ Rate per 1000 total (live and still births) 72.8.
	{ Illegitimate	nil			

	Total	M.	F.		
Deaths	171	94	77	Death rate per 1000 of estimated popula- tion, 11.9.	
Deaths from Puerperal Causes	...	...	...	...	nil
				<i>Deaths</i>	<i>Rate.</i>
Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	...	nil.	nil.
Other Puerperal Causes	...	...	...	nil.	nil.
Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :—					
All Infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	45.4
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births					47.6
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births					nil
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	...	...	...	20
„ Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	...	nil
„ Whooping Cough (all ages)				...	nil
„ Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	...	...	...	nil

VITAL STATISTICS.

Births.—There was little change in the total number of births in 1937, only two less than in 1936. For the last four years the numbers have been as follows :—

1934, 155.
1935, 175.
1936, 156.
1937, 154.

The birth rate works out at 12.3 per 1,000, which is practically the same as in the previous two years. The rate for England and Wales is 14.9.

Illegitimate births decreased by one, the numbers being as follows :—

1934, 8.
1935, 4.
1936, 8.
1937, 7.

Still births increased in number again, no less than 12 being recorded and this figure gives a rate of 72.8 per 1,000 live and still births. The rate per 1,000 population works out at 0.96 compared with the rate for England and Wales of 0.60.

Deaths.—The total number of deaths in 1937 increased to 171 from 156 in the two previous years. This rate also increases, the crude death rate being 13.7 per 1,000 against 12.5 in 1936. The corrected rate, based on the sex and age constitution of the local population at the 1931 census is 11.9 against 10.8 in 1936.

Increases.—There were 65 deaths due to diseases of the circulatory system compared with 61 in 1936 ; 10 from respiratory tuberculosis compared with 8 ; 14 from other respiratory diseases compared with 13 ; 13 from diseases of the digestive system compared with 3 ; 11 from violence compared with 5 ; 4 from influenza compared with none. It will be noticed that the greatest increase occurred in the last three groups.

Decreases.—There were 20 deaths from Cancer compared with 21 in the preceding year ; 1 from diabetes compared with 2 ; 6 from premature birth, etc. compared with 8 ; no puerperal deaths and no deaths from ordinary infectious diseases.

Infantile Mortality.—There were 7 deaths among infants under one year of age compared with 10 in 1936. The rate works out at 45 per 1,000 live births, compared with a rate for England and Wales of 58, and is the lowest since 1934.

Maternal Mortality.—It is satisfactory to note, particularly in view of the wide-spread interest that is being taken in the subject, that there was no maternal mortality during the year in this area.

To sum up, the birth rate was practically stationary ; there was a slight increase in the general death rate ; and there was a decrease in the infantile, tuberculosis, and maternal mortalities.

SECTION B.—GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

I. There have been no developments or changes in the services during the year.

(1) **Public Health Officers** consist of a part-time Medical Officer and full-time Sanitary Inspector. Their salaries are contributed to by Exchequer Grants.

(ii) (a) *Laboratory Facilities.*—There has been no change during the year. Clinical material is sent to the Pathological Department of the Northampton General Hospital.

(b) *Ambulance Facilities* are the same as in former years. Infectious cases, if removed to the Wellingborough Isolation Hospital, are transported by the hospital ambulance. Otherwise there is no provision made.

Non-infectious and accident cases are moved by the ambulances of the St. John Ambulance Brigade.

(c) *Nursing in the Home*.—There are no nurses provided or financed by the local authority. The County Nursing Association has district nurses in most parishes.

(d) *Clinics, Maternity and Child Welfare, Tuberculosis Dispensaries, etc.*, are all under the administration of the County Council.

(e) *Hospitals*.—There are no hospitals provided or subsidized by the Local Authority or the County Council. Indeed, there are no hospitals of any kind in the area. There is an arrangement in force with the Wellingborough Urban Council whereby cases of infectious diseases are sent to the Wellingborough Isolation Hospital if accommodation is available, and during the year nine cases of scarlet fever were admitted from this area.

SECTION C.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. (i) *Water Supply*.—The water supply in this area is slowly and gradually improving, and many parishes have now an adequate supply compared with a few years ago.

In 1936 Orlingbury and Little Harrowden received new supplies, and in 1937 Great Doddington at long last commenced a new scheme for joining up the pipe line at Earls Barton, a scheme which should have been adopted twenty years ago.

Extensions of established supplies were made in several parishes, chiefly to connect up new housing schemes.

There are still some of the smaller parishes which have not yet an adequate supply of pure water.

All samples taken from Public Supplies during the year came out satisfactorily.

(ii) *Drainage and Sewerage*.—There were no important changes or improvements during the year, apart from extensions of present systems to new houses. On the whole, the various sewage farms were satisfactorily maintained. They require careful and constant supervision.

2. *Rivers and Streams*.—There has been a great improvement in the state of the river Nene, thanks to the excellent work of the Catchment Board, and with the improved flow of water there were practically no complaints of pollution. Subsidiary streams were fairly satisfactory, many having been cleansed out during the previous dry years. If more labour could be devoted to cleaning out these water courses in dry summers, there would be less flooding in times of heavy rains,

and less pollution ; but the increasing scarcity of rural workers makes this work more and more difficult to carry out.

3. (i) *Closet Accommodation*.—There were no changes of any importance during the year. Naturally any improvements under this heading are dependent on water supply and sewage disposal, and while there is a satisfactory increase in water supply in many places, the sewage system in some parishes is inadequate and more or less obsolete.

(ii) *Public Cleansing*.—There was one important improvement during the year. At last Wilby has instituted a weekly collection of refuse, instead of the fortnightly collection which has for so long been the custom, and the parish is to be congratulated on this long overdue improvement.

Otherwise there were no changes of note during the year in refuse collection, scavenging, etc., and in this connection I should like to quote the following paragraph which appeared in the 1935 and 1936 Reports—

The method of refuse disposal in this area is another example of the disadvantage of decentralization. Each parish makes its own arrangements for collection and disposal of refuse, each with its own tip. Obviously, proper inspection and control is out of the question. In my opinion, in these days of rapid transport it would be much more efficient to have say, two areas, one on each side of the river, each with its own tip, which could be properly supervised with a collection at least once a week.

To sum up therefore, the time is overdue for a thorough overhauling of the sewerage, including sewage disposal, and the public cleansing of the whole area.

(iii) *Sanitary Inspection of the Area*.—I append the report furnished by the Sanitary Inspector under Article 19 of the Sanitary Officers Order, 1926.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

WELLINGBOROUGH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

I beg to submit for your consideration the Annual Report of the Sanitary condition of the Rural District of Wellingborough, and of the work carried out under the provisions of the Public Health and other Acts, for the year ended 31st December, 1937.

WATER SUPPLY.

Earls Barton.—Extension of the 3-inch water main in

the Wellingborough Road, Earls Barton to the main Northampton-Wellingborough Road.

Isham.—Extension of 4-inch water main to new Housing Estate, Main Road.

Little Harrowden.—Extension of 3-inch water main to new Council Houses on the Hardwick Road.

Wilby.—Extension of 3-inch water main to new Council Houses on the Wellingborough Road.

Great Doddington.—Work in progress during the year on new water scheme for the Parish.

Samples.—Three samples of water from Public Supplies were taken for analysis and found to be satisfactory.

Three Cottages in the District were found to be supplied with water for drinking and domestic purposes from a polluted well. The well has been closed and the Public Supply connected to the premises.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

Isham.—Extension of sewer has been carried out to serve new Housing Estate on Main Road.

Little Harrowden.—Extension of sewer to new Council Houses on the Hardwick Road.

Great Doddington.—Extension of sewer to new Council Houses, Earls Barton Road.

Blockages occurred on various sections of sewers in the District, but these were immediately relieved.

Sewage Works.—No important change has been made in the management of the Works in the District.

Drainage.—At Easton Maudit, Grendon, Hardwick and Great Harrowden, discharges into Settling Tanks, these are cleaned out when necessary and the various sewer ditches cleaned out, graded and sided up.

REFUSE COLLECTION.

No change has been made in the method of collection and disposal of refuse, each Parish having a separate arrangement for the work. The weekly collection in the Parish of Wilby was instituted during the year.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES—PUBLIC HEALTH (MEAT) REGULATIONS, 1924.

There are ten licensed slaughterhouses in the district. Weekly inspections of the premises are made and during the

period under review 1,416 lbs. of meat was surrendered and destroyed, being unfit for human consumption. The necessary cleansing and limewashing of the premises has been carried out satisfactorily. Twenty slaughtermen are registered in the District as required by the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.

There are 78 producers on the Register in the District. Inspections have been made of all premises from time to time.

114 Samples of Milk have been taken during the year for cleanliness, an increase on previous years.

61 were classified Good.
 4 „ „ Moderate.
 49 „ „ Bad.

Petroleum Acts.—Thirty-one Petroleum Licences have been renewed during the year and one Licence for Carbide of Calcium. All stores are in conformity with Regulations.

Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919.—Six thousand five hundred and ninety-four rat tails were collected during the year and in accordance with a resolution of the Council, 1d. per tail was paid. The tails were destroyed by burning.

Factory and Workshops Acts.—

Applications for Certificate as to suitable Water Supply	
for drinking	2
Limewashing and cleansing	4
Insanitary Closet accommodation	3
Smoke nuisance	3
Emission of Dust	1
List of Outworkers received	Nil

Bakehouses.—There are 18 Bakehouses in the District, and are kept in a cleanly condition. There are no underground Bakehouses.

Common Lodging Houses.—There are no Common Lodging Houses registered as such in the District.

Rivers and Streams.—There were no serious complaints of pollution of the River Nene during the year.

Eradication of Bed Bugs.—Only one case was recorded during the year, the necessary steps to abate the nuisance being taken by the owner of the premises.

Summary of work done during the year 1937.

Blocked sewers and drains...	...	...	...	...	36
Insanitary drainage	...	...	...	...	19
Defective Manhole Covers	...	...	...	...	7
Defective Vent Shafts	...	...	...	...	2
Offensive Accumulations	...	...	...	...	3
Insanitary Ashbins	...	...	...	...	3
Animals kept as to be a nuisance	...	...	...	...	2
Rat infested premises	...	...	...	...	9
Premises infested with bugs	...	...	...	...	1
Insanitary Closet Accommodation	...	...	...	...	3
Insufficient Closet Accommodation	...	...	...	...	5
Smoke and Dust nuisance	...	...	...	...	4
Defective Roofs	...	...	...	...	7
„ Paving	...	...	...	...	4
„ Guttering and downspouts	...	...	...	...	4
„ Plaster	...	...	...	...	6
„ Grates and firebacks	...	...	...	...	4
„ and damp Floors	...	...	...	...	9
„ „ „ Walls	...	...	...	...	8
„ Chimney	...	...	...	...	4
No proper Pantry for food	...	...	...	...	2
Notifications of Infectious Disease	...	...	...	...	46
Rooms Fumigated	...	...	...	...	63
Samples of Milk taken for Analysis	...	...	...	...	114
„ „ Water „ „ „	...	...	...	...	2
Premises without proper Water Supply	...	...	...	...	3
Cowshed inspections	...	...	...	...	328
Limewashing	...	...	...	...	37
Floors and Drainage	...	...	...	...	14
Slaughterhouse Inspections	...	...	...	...	263
Bad Floors	...	...	...	...	1
Drainage	...	...	...	...	2
Cleansing	...	...	...	...	5
Bakehouse Inspections	...	...	...	...	38
Cleansing and limewashing	...	...	...	...	12

In conclusion, I would like to express my thanks for the assistance I have received from the Medical Officer of Health, the Surveyor and the Clerk to the Council.

I am,

Yours obediently,

G. H. COWLES,
Sanitary Inspector.

Wellingborough.
July, 1938.

(v). *Smoke Abatement*.—Four cases, three from factories, were dealt with effectively during the year.

(vi). *Swimming Baths and Pools*.—There are two pools open to the public, one at Wilby and the other at Overstone, and in both cases the sanitary conditions were efficient, and there were no cause for any action to be taken. Both pools are equipped with satisfactory disinfecting and filtering appliances.

(vii). *Eradication of Bed Bugs*.—One case was dealt with by fumigation by the Sanitary Inspector.

4. *Schools*.—As in many rural areas, there is great room for improvement in the sanitary condition of the public elementary schools.

The Education Authority is alive to the short-comings, but it is necessary to have a piped water supply and efficient drainage and sewerage before improvements can be carried out.

On the whole the best use is made of the facilities available, and much can be done by efficient teaching of school hygiene.

SECTION D.—HOUSING.

During 1937, the total number of new houses completed was 80 compared with 113 in 1936 (the peak year so far). For the last five years the figures are as follows :—

1933	...	...	...	...	38
1934	...	...	...	...	51
1935	...	...	...	...	67
1936	...	...	...	...	113
1937	...	...	...	...	80

Of the total 64 were built by private enterprise and 16 by the Council and their distribution was as follows :—

Gt. Doddington	...	Private	17	Council	0	Total	17
Earls Barton	...	„	7	„	0	„	7
Little Harrowden	...	„	15	„	2	„	17
Irchester	...	„	10	„	0	„	10
Isham	...	„	3	„	4	„	7
Mears Ashby	...	„	0	„	4	„	4
Orlbury	...	„	1	„	0	„	1
Sywell	...	„	1	„	0	„	1
Wilby	...	„	2	„	6	„	8
Wollaston	...	„	8	„	0	„	8
			64		16		80

During the year 44 houses were demolished under the Housing Acts, the net increase of available houses therefore being only 36.

In the early part of the year Representations under the Housing Act were made for Clearance Areas involving almost one hundred houses in the parishes of Bozeat, Grendon, Irchester, Orlingbury and Wollaston, but up to the end of the year no Inquiry had been held.

If these Representations are confirmed it is evident that a considerable extension of building must be undertaken to re-house the inhabitants of the condemned dwellings.

Overcrowding.—There is a certain amount of overcrowding but no new cases were reported during the year. Five cases, involving 26 persons, were relieved. Obviously with a continued shortage of houses, the difficulties in relieving overcrowding are considerable.

Housing (Rural Workers) Acts, 1926-35.—It is satisfactory to note again that increasing attention is being paid to the provisions of this Act, and nine cottages in the area were re-conditioned during the year, an increase of one over 1936.

Housing Statistics.

1. *Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year :—*

(1) (a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	270
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	403
(2) (a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	Nil
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	Nil
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ...	Nil
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ...	Nil

2. *Remedy of defects during the year without Service of formal Notices :—*

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	58
--	----

3. <i>Action under Statutory Powers during the Year :—</i>			
(a)—Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Acts, 1936 :	...	...	Nil
(b)—Proceedings under Public Health Acts	...		Nil
(c)—Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :			
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made...			88
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuant of Demolition Orders	...		44
(d)—Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :			
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	...	...	Nil
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	...		Nil
4. <i>Housing Act, 1936—Part IV—Overcrowding.</i>			
(a) 1. Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	...	...	30
2. Number of families dwelling therein	...		30
3. Number of persons dwelling therein	...		195
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	...	...	Nil
(c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	...	...	5
(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases			26
(d) Nil.			
(e) Nil.			

SECTION E.—INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supplies.—There have been practically no changes during the year. Milk samples taken during the year totalled 114, of which more than a third were “bad”! There has been a certain amount of criticism of the Methylene Blue test, but certainly on the findings there would appear to be much room for improvement.

There was no change in the number of producers, viz. : 78, of which 18 are producers of accredited milk.

I append the Veterinary Inspector's Report.

TO THE JOINT COMMITTEE RE MILK AND DAIRIES ORDER, 1926

appointed by

THE URBAN & RURAL DISTRICT COUNCILS OF WELLINGBOROUGH.

Veterinary Inspector's Eighteenth Annual Report.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year ended 31st December, 1937.

During the last twelve months, 380 premises in the occupation of Registered Cowkeepers and 5,353 dairy cows in milk have been inspected and re-inspected.

The sanitary condition of the cowsheds on the whole has been satisfactory. Strict supervision is necessary over the limewashing, manure accumulations and the cleanliness of the cows. In some instances, the latter might be improved.

I am indebted to the Sanitary Inspectors of the Urban and Rural District Councils for the results of the examination for cleanliness of the milk samples taken by them. During the first quarter of the year, the Urban Sanitary Inspector took from cowkeepers in this area 40 samples. Of these, 36 were good and 4 bad. During the year 1937, the Rural Sanitary Inspector has taken 114 samples. According to the recent classifications, 62 were good, 17 moderate, and 35 bad. This is the first year that the Methylene Blue Test has been applied. 31 of the 35 bad results occurred during the period April to September. The practice of sampling milk and testing it for cleanliness is most instructive to all concerned and should produce very satisfactory results.

During the year, the number of accredited milk producers has increased by one, viz. : from 27 to 28.

The general condition and health of the cows has been satisfactory. The number of cows inspected was 5,353, of which 5,301 or 99.02 showed no clinical derangement. The number

found to be affected with Scheduled Diseases was 52. These were in a condition calculated to render the milk harmful for human consumption, viz : 34 cases of acute or chronic affection of the udder, 7 cases of septic uterus, 5 cases of abscess of the udder ; the sale of milk from these cows was stopped pending recovery. 6 were cases of Tuberculosis which were dealt with under the Tuberculosis Order, and the cows destroyed.

In connection with the diagnosis of the above, 9 samples of milk were sent to the Pathological Laboratory for microscopical examination. In 3 cases, pathogenic organisms were present. 6 cases were negative as regards acid fats organisms.

Attached is a tabular statement of the inspection, etc., for the year, showing the total figures for the whole area and for the Urban and Rural areas respectively, also, for comparison, the figures of last year.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

(Signed) E. W. PARKS,

Veterinary Inspector.

Wellingborough,

31st December, 1937.

		TOTAL		URBAN		RURAL	
		1937	1936	1937	1936	1937	1936
No. of Cowkeepers	...	90	99	18	23	72	76
No. of Premises inspected	...	380	398	83	90	297	308
No. of Cows Inspected	...	5353	5330	1027	1018	4326	4312
No. of Cows clinically normal		5301 or 99.02%	5279 or 99.04%	1014 or 98.73%	1010 or 99.21%	4287 or 99.09%	4269 or 99.00%
No. of Cows affected with Scheduled Diseases	...	52 or .97%	51 or .95%	13 or 1.26%	8 or .78%	39 or .90%	43 or .99%
*Tuberculosis	...	6 or .11%	9 or .16%	2 or .19%	1 or .09%	4 or .09%	8 or .18%
Samples of Milk for Laboratory Examination	...	9	19	2	3	7	16
Accredited Milk Producers	...	28	27	7	6	21	21

*The No. of cows affected with Tuberculosis is included in the No. of cows affected with Scheduled Diseases.

(b) *Meat and other Foods*.—As I have remarked before, the difficulties of efficient meat inspection in a wide area such as this are enormous and would take up the greater part of an Inspector's time. There is enough work in addition to keep two Inspectors fully employed, one for meat and other foods, and another for sanitation and housing.

There were no changes of note during the year. There are 10 licensed slaughter houses, the same as last year.

During the period 1416 lbs. of meat were destroyed, being unfit for human consumption.

(c) *Adulteration, etc.*—The Acts and Regulations under this heading are administered by the County Council.

(d) *Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Food* is also administered by the County Council.

(e) *Nutrition*.—No work has been undertaken in this subject by the Local Authority.

(f) *Shell Fish*.—Not much shell fish is marketed in the area, and it is not known from what layings exactly they come. Supplies are obtained from wholesalers.

SECTION F.—PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

General.

It is satisfactory to state that the incidence of infectious disease throughout the area during 1937 was comparatively slight. Only 26 cases, apart from tuberculosis, were notified during the year, and erysipelas, which still remains a notifiable disease, was responsible for six of the total.

Scarlet Fever.—Only 10 cases were notified during the year, an increase of two on 1936, but slight compared with 42 in 1935. Nine cases were removed to the Wellingborough Isolation Hospital.

Diphtheria.—The outstanding feature of the year as regards infectious disease was the fact that not one single case of diphtheria was notified during the year. So far as I can ascertain this is a record for the area. As only two cases were notified during 1936, the area has been remarkably free from this disease for some time.

Typhoid and Paratyphoid.—Here again no cases were notified during 1937. There were 4 in 1936.

Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia.—No notifications compared with 3 in the previous year.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.—Two cases were notified and both made good recoveries without permanent damage to the eyes.

It is satisfactory to note that there were no deaths from any notifiable infectious disease during the year with the exception of tuberculosis.

Apart from influenza there was not much non-notifiable disease. Chicken pox is more or less endemic, and there was some mild measles and whooping cough prevalent. There were, however, no deaths.

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during the Year 1937.

Disease	Under 1 year	1	2	3	4	5	10 15	15 20	20 35	35 45	45 65	65 & over	Total Cases notified	Cases admitted to hospital	Total Dths.
Small-pox ...													—	—	—
Diphtheria ...													—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ...	1	1	2	2		1	3	2	1				10	9	—
Enteric Fever ...													—	—	—
Puerperal Fever ...													—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ...													—	—	—
Pneumonia ...				1		3		1			3		8	—	—
Erysipelas ...									4	2			6	—	—
Ophthalmia neonatorum ...													2	—	—
Acute Polyomyelitis	2												—	—	—
	2	1		3		4	3	3	5	5			26	9	—

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING 1937. Shewing No. of Cases in each Parish.

DISEASES.	BOZEAT.	GT. DODDINGTON.	EARLS BARTON.	EASTON MAUDIT.	ECTON.	GRENDON.	HANNINGTON.	HARDWICK.	GT. HARROWDEN.	LITTLE HARROWDEN.	HIGHAM PARK.	IRCHESTER.	LITTLE IRCHESTER	ISHAM.	MEARS ASHBY.	NEWTON BROMSHOLD.	ORLINGBURY.	OVERSTONE	STRIXTON.	SYWELL.	WALGRAVE	WILBY.	WOLLASTON.	TOTAL.
Small Pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Scarlet Fever	...	3	1	...	...	2	...	...	1	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Encep. Lethargica	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pneumonia	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	1
Respiratory Tuberculosis	1	...	4	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	5	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
(Other Forms)	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	2
Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	2	5	7	...	...	3	...	2	...	4	...	5	6	...	1	...	2	...	...	...	...	3	6	46

3 (a) *Prevention of Blindness*.—No action has been taken under Section 66 of the Public Health Act of 1925.

(b) *Tuberculosis*.—The notifications of new cases totalled 20, an increase of 11 on last year. Of the total 14 were pulmonary.

The occupations of these fourteen cases were as follows :—

Boot and Shoe Operatives	...	4
Domestic Workers	... ..	3
Agricultural	... ..	3
Railway	... ..	1
No Occupation	... ..	1
Clothing	... ..	1
Not stated	... ..	1

The deaths numbered 10, all pulmonary. This is an increase on the previous year when the total was 8. The rate works out at 0·8 per 1,000 population.

There were no non-notified deaths in this district.

No action was taken during the year under the Regulations of 1925, or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

Notifications and Deaths from Tuberculosis during 1937 showing age periods.

			NEW CASES				DEATHS.			
			Pulmonary		Non.-Pul.		Pulmonary		Non.-Pul.	
			M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year	...		—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
1— 5	...	...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
5—10	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10—15	...	...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
15—20	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20—25	...	...	2	—	—	1	—	1	—	—
25—35	...	...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
35—45	...	...	3	2	1	1	1	2	—	—
45—55	...	...	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
55—65	...	...	3	—	—	—	3	—	—	—
65 upwards	...		—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Totals	...		11	3	4	2	6	4	—	—
			TOTAL 20				TOTAL 10			

ANALYSIS OF CAUSES OF DEATH.

During the Year 1937.

CAUSE OF DEATH.				TOTAL		MALES		FEMALES.
1.	Typhoid & Paratyphoid Fevers			—	...	—	...	—
2.	Measles	...	...	—	...	—	...	—
3.	Scarlet Fever	...	...	—	...	—	...	—
4.	Whooping Cough	...	...	—	...	—	...	—
5.	Diphtheria	...	...	—	...	—	...	—
6.	Influenza	...	...	4	...	4	...	—
7.	Encephalitis lethargica			...	...	—	...	—
8.	Cerebro-Spinal Fever			...	...	—	...	—
9.	Tuberculosis of respiratory system			...	...	6	...	4
10.	Other tuberculous diseases			...	...	—	...	—
11.	Syphilis	...	...	1	...	—	...	1
12.	General paralysis of the insane, tabes dorsalis			...	...	—	...	—
13.	Cancer, malignant disease			20	...	10	...	10
14.	Diabetes	...	...	1	...	—	...	1
15.	Cerebral haemorrhage, etc.			17	...	11	...	6
16.	Heart disease	...	...	43	...	23	...	20
17.	Aneurysm	...	...	1	...	—	...	1
18.	Other circulatory diseases			4	...	3	...	1
19.	Bronchitis	...	...	7	...	3	...	4
20.	Pneumonia (all forms)...			7	...	6	...	1
21.	Other respiratory diseases			—	...	—	...	—
22.	Peptic Ulcer	...	...	4	...	3	...	1
23.	Diarrhoea, etc. (under 2 yrs.)			—	...	—	...	—
24.	Appendicitis	...	...	1	...	—	...	1
25.	Cirrhosis of Liver			—	...	—	...	—
26.	Other diseases of Liver			2	...	1	...	1
27.	Other digestive diseases			6	...	4	...	2
28.	Acute and chronic nephritis			1	...	—	...	1
29.	Puerperal sepsis			—	...	—	...	—
30.	Other puerperal causes			—	...	—	...	—
31.	Congenital debility, premature birth, malformations, etc.			6	...	3	...	3
32.	Senility	...	...	8	...	3	...	5
33.	Suicide	...	...	—	...	—	...	—
34.	Other violence			11	...	6	...	5
35.	Other defined diseases...			14	...	7	...	7
36.	Causes ill-defined or unknown			3	...	1	...	2
Total				171	...	94	...	77

**Comparison of Local Vital Statistics with those of the
Whole Country.**
(Provisional Figures)

1937	England and Wales	125 County Boro's including London	148 Smaller Towns (25,000— 50,000) population	London Adminis- trative County	W'boro' Rural District
Rates per 1,000 population.					
Births :—					
Live	14.9	14.9	15.3	13.3	12.3
Still	0.60	0.67	0.64	0.54	0.90
Deaths :—					
All causes	12.4	12.5	11.9	12.3	11.9
Typhoid and para- typhoid fever ...	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	nil.
Measles	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.01	nil.
Scarler Fever ...	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	nil.
Whooping Cough ...	0.04	0.04	0.03	0.06	nil.
Diphtheria	0.07	0.08	0.05	0.05	nil.
Influenza	0.45	0.39	0.42	0.38	0.32
Violence	0.54	0.45	0.42	0.51	0.88
Rates per 1,000 Live Births.					
Deaths under 1 year of age	58	62	55	60	45
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis, under 2 years of age. ...	5.8	7.9	3.2	12.0	nil.
Maternal Mortality :—					
Puerperal Sepsis ...	0.97	Not available			nil.
Others	2.26				nil.
Total	3.23				nil.
Rates per 1,000 Total Births (i.e., Live and Still).					
Maternal Mortality :—					
Puerperal Sepsis ...	0.94	Not available			nil.
Others	2.17				nil.
Total	3.11				nil.

Wellingborough Rural District.

Comparison of Birth Rate, Death Rate, and Infantile
Mortality Rate for the last twenty-seven years.

Year	Birth Rate	Death Rate.	Infantile Mortality.
1911	20.9	13.52	141.0
1912	17.8	10.07	57.2
1913	17.7	11.7	75.3
1914	18.67	13.0	88.6
1915	16.7	12.8	113.2
1916	16.42	14.92	87.15
1917	14.8	14.5	84.6
1918	12.46	14.05	47.9
1919	14.5	13.5	75.8
1920	13.1	11.11	58.44
1921	20.8	13.28	76.9
1922	17.9	12.4	61.9
1923	17.2	11.4	77.9
1924	15.1	12.7	52.1
1925	16.4	10.3	57.4
1926	15.39	11.44	51.2
1927	13.7	9.4	40.0
1928	14.1	10.8	33.7
1929	15.4	11.6	29.1
1930	14.7	11.0	48.3
1931	13.6	11.5	57.4
1932	12.7	12.1	37.0
1933	14.6	11.4	81.5
1934	12.4	9.3*	38.6
1935	14.0	9.6*	45.7
1936	12.5	10.8*	64.1
1937	12.3	11.9*	45.4

* Corrected death rate.

Wellingborough Rural District.

Notifications and Deaths from Tuberculosis during the last twenty-one years.

Year	Total Notifi- cations	Respira- tory	Other Forms	Total Deaths	Respira- tory	Other Forms
1917	37	31	6	21	17	4
1918	33	30	3	12	10	2
1919	24	18	6	13	12	1
1920	15	15	0	6	3	3
1921	18	16	2	14	12	2
1922	22	20	2	15	12	3
1923	12	11	1	8	5	3
1924	15	12	3	11	8	3
1925	16	14	2	10	7	3
1926	31	25	6	15	14	1
1927	10	7	3	7	7	0
1928	19	13	6	11	10	1
1929	15	11	4	11	11	0
1930	14	13	1	12	12	0
1931	12	10	2	7	6	1
1932	20	18	2	11	7	4
1933	8	8	0	7	7	0
1934	18	16	2	13	12	1
1935	9	7	2	3	3	0
1936	9	8	1	8	8	0
1937	20	14	6	10	10	0

